

Remarks

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 5-9, 13-15, and 17 are pending in the application, with claims 5 and 17 being the independent claims. Claims 1-4, 11-12, and 16 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Based on the above Amendment and the following Remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action on page 4, in sections 4-5, indicates that claims 5-9, 13-15, and 17 are allowed. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance of these claims.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action on page 4, in section 8, rejects claims 1-4, 11-12, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,933,135 to Horwege. Applicant has canceled claims 1-4, 11-12, and 16, thus rendering this rejection moot with respect to claims 1-4, 11-12, and 16.

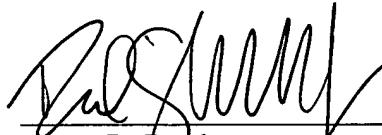
In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: March 30, 2005
James R. Burdett
Registration No. 31,594
Daniel G. Vivarelli, Jr.
Registration No. 51,137
VENABLE
P.O. Box 34385
Washington, D.C. 20043-9998
Telephone: (202) 962-4800
Telefax: (202) 962-8300

DC2/636373